

FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

340A Montevue Lane

Frederick, MD 21702

Telephone: 301-600-8683 FAX: 301-600-2344

MINUTES of the February 6, 2019 Monthly Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 PM, in Room 119 of the Frederick County Board of Elections Office, located at 340A Montevue Lane, by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President
Mark P. Jeffers, Jr., Vice President
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary
Carlotta C. Joyner, Board Member
William L. Woodcock, Board Member
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney

Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director
Christine Winer, Election Supervisor
Carl Dayley, Election Clerk Lead Advanced

GUESTS:

Sydnee Sichert, Legislative Analyst for the County Council attended the meeting on behalf of the Council. Deborah Carter, Democratic Central Committee Chair attended the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 10, 2019 MEETING:

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Jeffers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Mr. Harvey expressed appreciation for Ms. Sichert's attendance on behalf of the Council Liaison.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Harvey reports post-election maintenance is complete. Training will address issues with packing of voting booths by election judges. Bill hearings are ongoing at the Maryland General Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS

FY19 BUDGET:

Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the current status of budget accounts. The General Office fund has sufficient funds. The Early Voting and General Election funds are still in positive status. The Board discussed the underfunding of the State Overtime sub-account.

2018 ELECTION JUDGES:

Ms. Winer reports judges have been paid. 106 no-show judges (approximately 12.5% of 849 hired), majority of these were college students who didn't officially withdraw for the general election. No-shows were marked as "do not hire" but an exception will be made for college students. Procedures will change to re-verify availability between Primary and General elections in 2020. The Board discussed judges dissatisfied regarding taxes on their pay. Some people were in danger of losing social

service benefits because they are being considered a county employee. The Board discussed the chief judge recap meeting and found the feedback useful.

MANUAL AUDIT:

The manual audit was completed on January 24, 2019. The results of the audit matched the results from the voting system. Staff audited an Election Day precinct 21-002, the Thurmont EV site, absentee, and provisional ballots. 1142 ballots were audited.

2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION:

Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the elections-related bills filed as of this meeting.

HB79/ SB461	Increases EV locations, probably won't impact Frederick County until 2022.	MAEO supports with amendments. Likely to pass.
HB119	Allows voters to request permanent ABS status.	MAEO no position. Likely to pass.
HB172	SBE bill. Rolls back voter registration deadline from 9pm to 5pm.	
HB237	EV hours change for general elections. Changes to 8am for all.	MAEO opposes. Likely to pass.
HB252	Assists eligible detainees with VR and ABS.	MAEO no position.
HB269	Pre-paid postage for ABS ballots.	MAEO suggests language change to require SBE to reimburse costs. Likely to pass.
HB286	Same-Day Registration on election day.	MAEO will comment on costs.
HB322 /SB606	Changes terminology from ABS voting to "Vote By Mail".	MAEO no position, but may ask constitutional terminology re ABS. Likely to pass.
HB423	Creates High School Voter Registration system.	MAEO suggests amendments making sure staff/students are aware of OLVR.
HB530 /SB489	Allows unaffiliated to affiliate at EV and ED.	MAEO opposes.
HB565 /SB373	Changes process to BMD only.	MAEO opposes due to fiscal impact, and audit implications.

HB569	Registration requirements.	MAEO legislation. Needs amendments.
HB577	Requires admin leave if county/municipal employee serves as EJ.	MAEO legislation.
SB154	Open polls at 6am on ED.	MAEO opposes. EJs oppose.
SB230	Requires multi-day Canvass to report unofficial results at the end of each day.	MAEO taking no position.
SB304	Requires ABS ballot deposit box in each county.	MAEO opposes, as unnecessary costs.
SB411	Requires polling place at retirement communities.	MAEO opposes.
SB651	Changes all LBEs to 5-members.	MAEO legislation.

The Board recessed at 1:30 PM, and reconvened at 1:45 PM.

REDISTRICTING:

Mr. Harvey, Mr. Woodcock, and Mr. Hill attended the meeting of the Governor's Commission in Frederick on January 14, 2019. The Commission expects a draft map to be available to the Legislature, and for public review no later than April. Mr. Harvey expects the Legislature to wait until the Supreme Court decision in June before taking any action to redraw the 6th Congressional District. Mr. Hill reviewed his testimony at the meeting. He showed the map he presented at the meeting, and explained his methodology to the Board. The Board discussed the maps, and the redistricting process.

VOTING LOCATION CHANGES FOR 2020:

Mr. Harvey updated the Board on a possible relocation of EV-01 to the former Trinity School location on New Design Road. He has requested a meeting with City officials, but hasn't heard back. The Board discussed the proposed changes. Mr. Woodcock made a motion that Mr. Harvey send a letter to the Mayor requesting an appearance at an upcoming Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting. Mrs. Joyner seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Board discussed capacity issues with Early Voting at the Senior Center. City Alderman Roger Wilson suggested the Board consider relocating EV-1 to the former Trinity School. This is a City-owned property, currently used by the City's Parks and Recreation department, but may be available.

The Board also discussed capacity and other issues with 18-002 Prospect United Methodist Church, and 24-001 Church of Transfiguration. The polling place for 18-002 is too small for the number of voters assigned there. Staff will investigate possible new locations for 18-002. Mr. Harvey explained the possibility of moving 24-001 to Grace Community Church (current location of 24-002/004-005/006) and moving 24-002/004-005/006 to a location closer to the precincts involved.

ELECTION CENTER WORKSHOP:

Mr. Welch, and Ms. Winer will attend the upcoming Election Center workshop to begin their coursework to obtain their Certified Elections Registration Administrator (CERA) certifications. The workshop and classes will take place in Birmingham, Alabama February 23-26, 2019.

Mr. Harvey informed the Board that there will be another workshop, and classes scheduled in Virginia Beach at the end of April. Schedule and funds permitting, Mr. Welch, and Ms. Winer will attend this workshop.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Board scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, March 6, 2019, at 12:30 PM in Room 119 of the Frederick County Board of Elections Office, located at 340A Montevue Lane.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 PM.

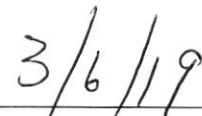
Respectfully submitted,

Marc R. Welch
Election Administrative Assistant

Approved by:



Mary Lou Green, Board President



Date